

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A keyswitch, comprising:
2 a plurality of legs interleaved together without a pivot point
3 approximately central to the plurality of legs, each of the plurality of legs
4 having a bottom surface; and
5 a spring to engage at least one of the bottom surfaces of the
6 plurality of legs.
- 1 2. The keyswitch of claim 1, wherein the spring engages both of the
2 bottom surfaces of the plurality of legs.
- 1 3. The keyswitch of claim 1, wherein the spring is constructed from a
2 material comprising a metal.
- 1 4. The keyswitch of claim 2, wherein the spring is constructed from a
2 material comprising a metal.
- 1 5. The keyswitch of claim 1, wherein the plurality of legs is
2 constructed from a material comprising a metal.
- 1 6. The keyswitch of claim 2, wherein the plurality of legs is
2 constructed from a material comprising a metal.
- 1 7. The keyswitch of claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of legs has a
2 center and wherein each of the plurality of legs is undulated at
3 approximately its center.

8. A keyswitch, comprising:

a plurality of legs having sides without flanges, wherein the plurality of legs is constructed from a material comprising a metal.

9. The keyswitch of claim 8, wherein each of the plurality of legs has a center and wherein each of the plurality of metal legs is undulated at approximately its center.

10. The keyswitch of claim 8, wherein each of the plurality of legs has a bottom surface and wherein the keyswitch further comprises a spring to engage at least one of the bottom surfaces of the plurality of legs.

11. The keyswitch of claim 10, wherein the spring engages both of the bottom surfaces of the plurality of legs.

12. The keyswitch of claim 8, wherein each of the plurality of legs has a constant thickness.

13. The keyswitch of claim 12, wherein the thickness of one of the plurality of legs is less than approximately 1 millimeter.

14. A keyswitch, comprising:

a plurality of legs interleaved together without a pivot point approximately central to the plurality of legs, the plurality of legs having sides without flanges.

15. The keyswitch of claim 14, further comprising a base and wherein the plurality of legs are pivotally engaged with the base.

1 16. The keyswitch of claim 15, wherein lateral movement of the
2 plurality of legs is constrained at the base.

1 17. The keyswitch of claim 14, wherein each of the plurality of legs has
2 a bottom surface and wherein the keyswitch further comprises:
3 a spring to engage at least one of the bottom surfaces of the
4 plurality of legs.

1 18. The keyswitch of claim 11, wherein the spring engages both of the
2 bottom surfaces of the plurality of legs.

1 19. A keyswitch comprising:
2 first and second legs each having a first end and a second end, the
3 first end having two lower protrusions and the second end having upper
4 protrusions, the lower protrusions of the second leg disposed between the
5 lower protrusions of the first leg; and
6 a base having a plurality of retaining clips, each of the lower
7 protrusions of the first and second legs pivotally engaged with a
8 corresponding one of the plurality of retaining clips.

1 20. The keyswitch of claim 19, wherein the first and second legs each
2 have bottom surfaces and wherein the keyswitch further comprises a
3 spring coupled to the base, the spring to engage at least one of the bottom
4 surfaces of the plurality of legs

1 21. The keyswitch of claim 20, wherein the spring engages both the
2 bottom surfaces of the plurality of legs.

22. The keyswitch of claim 19, wherein the first and the second legs each have a center and wherein the first and the second legs are undulated at approximately their centers.

23. The keyswitch of claim 19, wherein each of the upper protrusions has a slot and wherein the keyswitch further comprises:

a cap having a plurality of tabs, each of the plurality of tabs pivotally coupled to a corresponding slot, each of the plurality of tabs being able to translate with movement of keyswitch.

24. The keyswitch of claim 19, wherein each of the upper protrusions overlap a corresponding lower protrusion.

25. A keyswitch, comprising:

first and second legs each having a first end and a second end, the first end and the second end being separated in height by less than approximately 1 millimeter.

26. The keyswitch of claim 25, wherein the first and the second legs each have a constant thickness.

27. The keyswitch of claim 26, wherein the thickness of the first leg is approximately 0.25 millimeters.

28. A keyswitch, comprising:

a cap; and

a plurality of legs supporting the cap, each of the plurality of legs being a leaf spring that has a cantilevered structure to support parallel up and down movement of the cap.

29. The keyswitch of claim 28, wherein the plurality of legs are metal.

30. The keyswitch of claim 28, wherein one of the plurality of legs is bowed.

31. The keyswitch of claim 28, wherein the bowed leg buckles when compressed to provide tactile feedback.

32. The keyswitch of claim 28, wherein an end of each leg is attached to a support and the cap is capable of vertical movement relative to the support, and wherein a first plane defined by the cap and a second plane defined by the support remain substantially parallel to each other during movement of the cap.

33. The keyswitch of claim 25, wherein the height exists when the keyswitch is not depressed.

34. A keyswitch, comprising:
a support;
a cap having a top and a bottom; and
a pair of legs coupled to the bottom of the cap and coupled to the support, and wherein the keyswitch has a height, when fully depressed of less than approximately 2.5 millimeters from the top to the support.

35. A keyswitch, comprising:

2 a spring having a first end and a second end;
3 a base;
4 a first compliant material disposed between the first end of the
5 spring and the base; and
6 a second compliant material disposed between the second end of
7 the spring and the base.

1 36. The keyswitch of claim 35, wherein the spring has a unitary body.

1 37. The keyswitch of claim 36, wherein the unitary body is bowed.

1 38. The keyswitch of claim 35, wherein the spring is constructed from a
2 material comprising metal.